

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Marengo

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Gregory Rd., 2.7 miles n.w. of Shannahan Rd., (west to house)

CITY, TOWN

Easton

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Talbot

3 CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT**OWNERSHIP**☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED**STATUS**☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS**ACCESSIBLE**☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO**PRESENT USE**☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mr. & Mrs. Phillip Moore, et al

Telephone #: (301) 822-3071

STREET & NUMBER

Marengo

CITY, TOWN

Easton

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21601

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Talbot County Courthouse

Liber #: 507

Folio #: 733

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

STATE

Maryland 21601

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

T-96

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Marengo is located on a neck of land between Leeds Creek and Hunting Creek on Miles River Neck. The house faces southwest overlooking the Miles River and the town of St. Michaels in the distance.

The present dwelling, built in 1891 is a Victorian Gothic style building, although quite plain. It is composed of a large two and one-half story rectangular frame section with lower two story kitchen wing. Behind the kitchen is a small two story servants quarters connected to the kitchen by a one story service area. Most of the aforementioned dwelling was constructed in the 1890's. Between 1900-1912 a one story suite was constructed on the northeast side of the house. The dining room, in front of the kitchen wing adjacent the screened porch, was constructed between 1912-1936. During that latter period, gardens were designed and laid out by Thomas W. Sears, Landscape Architect, Providence, R.I. The garden is still maintained although somewhat simplified.

Since there is relatively little decoration on the house, the brackets around the roof and the porch are the most interesting. A short projection in the center of the facade houses the entrance on the first story and terminates as a tower on the third story. On the southeast side of the house is a wide bay window and an exterior chimney (later than 1900). In center of the house is the original chimney which served the needs of the original plan.

In the west corner of the house is a stair and entrance hall, in the north a library (originally dining room) and on the southeast side a living room. The present dining room is accessible from beneath the fine Victorian stair and is located in front of the kitchen and pantry. Most of the interior trim is relatively simple although bold and large scale.

On the second story were three separate bedrooms, although two above the living room have been converted into a master suite. Two bedrooms are located on the third story.

Beside the garden and other wings, there are several other buildings on the property including a garage and carriage house, a coal house, ice house, smoke house and two overseers houses, all built around 1900. Across the small gut to the north several barns were constructed in 1936.

Tradition says the kitchen fireplace remains from the previous house, however, it is doubtful after looking at the photo of the previous house. The structure is not a fireplace, but rather a recess constructed for a stove.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES	BUILDER/ARCHITECT
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Architecturally, Marengo is a good building of the 1890's but its simplicity prevents its being on par with the Old Villa or some of the Queen Anne style buildings in Easton. It is worthy of preservation as a good typical dwelling of the upper middle class of the period as well as the fact that there are several early 20th century buildings on the property and the fact that the garden designed by Thomas Sears, around 1912, has remained relatively unchanged.

Marengo is important as the place where Jacob Gibson lived between 1759-1818. Jacob Gibson was a prominent farmer who was famous because of his outspoken views on politics in the early republic. He apparently was as pugnacious as he was outspoken and was proud of his agricultural accomplishments and self-made education. His boisterous interest in politics earned him an appointment of Associate Judge of Talbot County Court between 1802-1806.

Little is readily available about the character or profession of Harold Wheeler who built the present house after the second house had burned in 1891. He owned the property between 1883-1900.

Jay W. Bigelow, (owner 1912-1917) had retired to Talbot from operating coal mines in Marytown, W.Va.

Homer Williams, who purchased the farm from Mrs. Bigelow, and who built the barns across the gut from the house, had a very prosperous career in the steel business. Before retiring to Talbot County, he had been President of Carnegie Steel and Pittsburg Steel. At one time he served on a committee to raise 15 million dollars for rebuilding the University of Pittsburg. He was also a trustee of his AlmaMater, Lehigh, as well as U of Pittsburg.

Since 1946, the property has been in the ownership of Philip and Caroline Moore and their heirs.

T-96

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Tilghman, Oswald, History of Talbot County, Maryland,
Baltimore, 1915.

"Marengo", data compiled by the Moore family.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

March, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

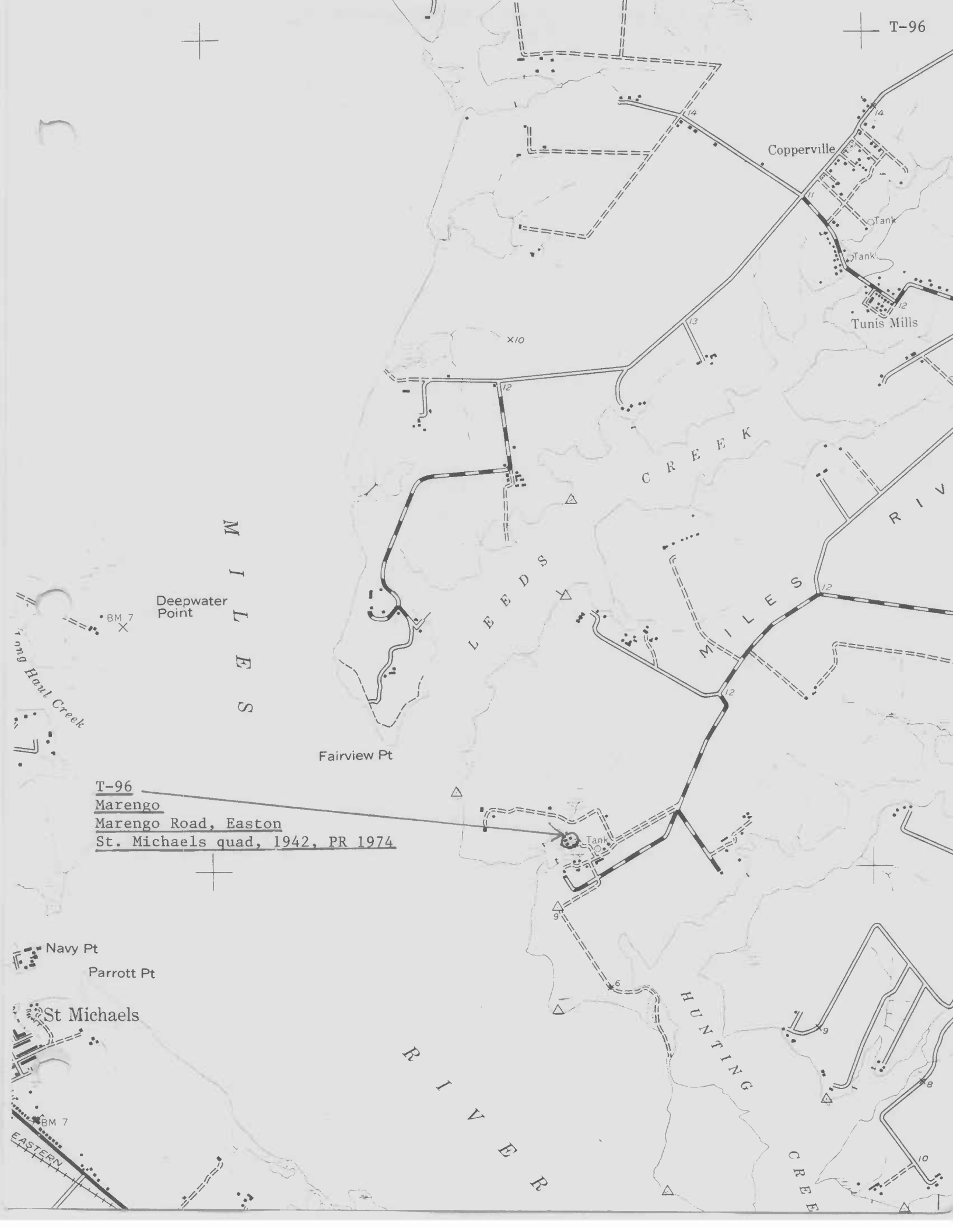
STATE

Maryland 21401

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



T-96
Marengo
Marengo Road, Easton
St. Michaels quad, 1942, PR 1974



.20 x 1.75

75% 96

MARENGO

T-96



8. 7/12 Campbell
FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHY
CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND

S.W.

WAB

2/77